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THE ISCI BULLETIN

FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE JUSTICE

ISLAMIC SUPREME COUNCIL OF IRAQ

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Peaceful Protest Is Constitutional Right; We Declare Our Solidarity With These Protests

Sayed Alhakim Receives President Talabani



Sayed Alhakim received on Thursday, February 24, 2011, President Jalal Talabani. During the meeting, they discussed the latest development in the region in general. In a press statement following the meeting, President Talabani stressed that this meeting comes to emphasize the bonds of strategic and historical relationship between the Kurdistan Alliance and the ISCI and for consultation on the aspiration and the concerns of the Iraqi people as a whole. He noted that the visions were identical and compatible in term of providing all factors for the success of the Iraqi experience and the current project and listen to the demands of the Iraqi people and achieve them and pay attention to the projects of those who are trying to infiltrate between the ranks of philanthropists and employ the demands of the Iraqi people in the wrong directions. Sayed Alhakim said, "we took the opportunity of the meeting for further consultation in the internal affairs of the country and regional situations," and noted that Iraq is passing through a sensitive stage in the construction of political experience and the launch of its national service, and stressed that we have to achieve the demands of our people in the provision of services and to live decent life. He also stressed on the importance of the historical relations between political actors in the Iraqi arena and the need for further work and coordination among them and follow up on the issues and problems of citizens.

Sayed Alhakim Hosts Political-Cultural Forum

Iraqi Protests And Marches

We emphasize that these protests are the constitutional right of the Iraqi people and no one can deny this constitutional right of the Iraqi people; rights which includes fair demands. So with that in mind we declare clearly our solidarity with these protests. I was happy with what I heard from the comments of some senior officials in the Iraqi government which had talked about understanding the realistic demands posed by these protesters. That such statements are considered an important step in understanding the suffering of the people and work that needs to be done to address the everyday concerns experienced by Iraqi citizens. This is a move that is also important to calm down the Iraqi people that may feel angry when they do not find a receptive or understanding government that should be working to alleviate their daily suffering. This is the case of indifference by officials to the concerns and daily issues which increases the sense of injustice and deprivation in the light of a political system built on the basis of the popular will, which could let to an increase in the gap between the people and officials and rebels, and we cannot accept that for our people. We cannot accept this feeling of deprivation or injustice in the political system which was established to lift the injustice and achieve the legitimate demands of our people. The presence of a malicious agenda to exploit the sincere feelings of our people and their demands is not acceptable. We hold the government agencies in full responsibility and need to identify them and expose them and undress them. That the existence of such an agenda is not allowed in any way to diminish the values and the legitimate demands by our people. Dear honorable Iraqis, raise your voices and claim your...

-Continued in next column

VP Mahdi Receives U.S. Ambassador



VP Mahdi received on Monday, February 28, 2011, the U.S. ambassador, Mr. James Jeffrey. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways of enhancing them, addressed the developments in the Iraqi political scene and ways to consolidate the democratic experiment in Iraq and to stay away from anything that would harm it or distort its image. The two sides stressed the need to move forward in the process of reconstruction and economic development in order to overcome the legacy of the past era.

Political-Cultural Forum

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...legitimate rights through the Constitution and the law and through the contexts of our legal frameworks. Do not allow any one or any party to exploit your rights and your demands for a special political agenda. We should not allow them to distort these rights to aspects and issues that offend you and your history and your pride, you are keen on the unity of the country. I renew my pride in the armed forces, the army, and the police; I thank them for their considerable efforts and strenuous work to provide security for citizens. I thank them for their substantial sacrifice in this area and I call on them to deal wisely and with patience with these protests and the rallies and feel the pain of the citizens. It's something outrageous against the new Iraqi

state of fatigue and resentment of the Iraqi citizen in connection with services and the difficult living conditions experienced by the Iraqi citizens and the spread of financial and administrative corruption in many of the joints of the Iraqi state. We reiterate our position from the constitutional right of citizens in the expression of freedom and take on marches in a civilized and peaceful way in order to reflect the legitimate right of those people within the law and the constitution. Fellow citizens, preserving our rights and defending your legitimate rights requires us not to allow abuse our home. You must not go about trying to achieve your rights and demands through the exploitation of this right by any party for private purposes and interests far from your demands and your rights and your expectations. We must distinguish between the right to demonstrate, which a right is guaranteed by virtue of the Iraqi constitution and between the exploitation of the opportunists for purposes far away from your rights and your demands. I call on the people who are wishing to demonstrate to form popular civilian committees by them within the legal standards in order to surveillance and monitor every detail of the marches and demonstrations and ensure the absence of these exploiters who do not want good for this country, but have their own agenda.

Supporting Pillars Of Political Process

ISCI has had continued since the fall of the dictatorial regime to provide the requirements and means for support and protection of the national political project to protect it from errors and distortions by changing the wrong paths that caused the decline in Iraq politically and economically, and culturally. The national political project, which governs the process of radical change, the existing building in Iraq today, and the new cultural building, became the axis of polarization of the social strata of the Iraqi people and the political classes. ISCI believes that the protection and maintenance of a national political project cannot be achieved unless we provide the foundations, the reasons, methods, curricula, and strategic programs of action which can achieve the ambitions of Iraqis to live in their homeland and their

system of democratic with freedom. There are several pillars that uphold this system.

These pillars are as follows:

1-Protection of the Constitution: ISCI stresses on the protection of the Iraqi constitution, it warns against violating the constitution, as happened, unfortunately, in previous times. Where these violations were addressed by national consensus, the constitution of Iraq guarantees the right of citizens to demonstrate and express their opinion, this right is legitimate and we have to defend it.

2-Strengthening of independence and national sovereignty: ISCI sees that any incomplete sovereignty of any country, including Iraq will be under foreign tutelage that does not serve the interests of this country, but would confiscate its fateful decisions and manipulate its intellectual, humanitarian, and physical possessions, and the exposure of its national territory to damage. That facing such high risk is required by all national politicians to restore full national sovereignty. The late Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim was the among the first initiators of the Iraqi politicians to launch his initiative to remove Iraq from Chapter VII. We therefore call on all partners in the political process to support implementation of the agreements with other countries and especially the Convention on the withdrawal of forces and strategic framework agreement.

3-Activation of national partnership: We call to activate the national partnership because it represents the real need to protect and support the national political project in building the new Iraq without marginalization or exclusion of anyone, and we must root this principle in the overall work of the departments of the new state in the political-national decision because of the urgent need for such a principle in our political scene. In light of the difficult circumstances experienced by Iraq we in ISCI believe that this partnership is to achieve the aspirations of the Iraqi people and capable of resolving all the crises and overcome the difficulties and start the building process of a new Iraq through cooperation and solidarity of its sons and daughters according to the legal and the constitutional foundations taking into

account that the Iraqi political system is a pluralistic federal Parliament system. Iraq is for all Iraqis without exception and ISCI will stand strongly with the demands of the Iraqi people and call on the government of national partnership and its security services to provide the necessary protection for the demonstrators within the law and within the constitutional framework, and thwart the plots of the enemies who are trying to exploit the emotions of the masses, so we warn everyone to not allow such lurking traffickers who want to implement their own agendas.

4-National wealth and equitable distribution: ISCI stresses that the national wealth is the property of the Iraqi people and not the property of the governor, and the governor in charge of protecting it and distributing it equitably among all components and areas of the Iraqi people, according to population density. ISCI would stand against any official in the Iraqi state who wants to take advantage of his position to dissipate the wealth and exploit it to serve his party for his own interests at the expense of public interest, and the Iraqi government must identify any official thereof. If there are uncovered documents relating to this corruption in the courts in order to receive his just punishment, the Iraqi judiciary should push to stop this disease that affects those who are working with state officials. ISCI also believes that the required control of the Council of Representatives must be activated to reveal the spoilers in front of the Iraqi people, so the ISCI calls for its cadres and loyal supporters to detect and report such abuses.

5-The achievement of the demands of the Iraqis: Today, with poor public services, especially electricity, water, sanitation and roads, health care, education and other worries and the suffering of Iraqis, it has become imperative for the government of national partnership to do its best to provide these services that affect the essence of the citizen's life. Especially as we enter the scorching summer. We in ISCI call on all officials in the state to listen to the concerns of citizens and help them solve their problems through the legal and constitutional ways to serve their interests.

6-National Alliance: ISCI was and will remain part of the National Alliance,

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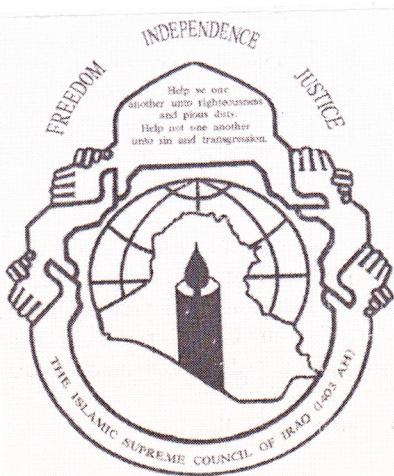
democratic process in the new Iraq.

4-The compensation and re-opening of Aldiar channel and the Centre for press freedoms and to issue a formal apology to the media.

Based on the foregoing and in order to preserve the achievements of the Iraqi people and the application of the Constitution and the protection of democracy that we fought together to establish it and consolidate it, we call upon the Council of Representatives to hold an extraordinary session to discuss the violations mentioned above and questioning officials of the security forces for abuses that took place on Friday and to identify and punish those officials.

MP Baqir Alzubaidi
Sunday, February 27, 2011

Demonstrations And Protests: Causes And Solutions



We believe that there were important reasons behind the impatience of the Iraqi citizens who have suffered so much due to the sluggishness of the government in the provision of services that affects the daily lives of the Iraqi citizens as well as the failure of the educational, health, and other sectors. These protests are not against the political process, but against the decline in government performance in addressing the problems, including:

1-Lack of provision of services: The lack of provision of services has become an

intractable problem due to under qualified persons who were entrusted with the tasks of augmenting the availability of services such as electricity, fuel, sanitation, paving streets and establishing bridges. It is this that motivates citizens to demonstrate and protest. Our position is to stand with legitimate and fair demands of the Iraqi people, and we refuse to attempt to quell protesters and demonstrators by force of arms.

2-Prevalence of unemployment: The unemployment level in Iraq haunts the lives of Iraqis and in particular the youth. Led by university graduates, the youth involved in these protests strongly advocated the creation of opportunities for all unemployed young people and the application of the principle of equal opportunities in recruitment, which is a legitimate right, and all Citizens are equal in this context. We stand counter to the policy of nepotism and clientelism in recruitment, and believe in equal opportunities for all Iraqis.

3-The widening of gap between the citizen and official: Protesters in the capital Baghdad and other provinces demanded the reduction of the astronomical salaries of the three presidencies employees and the owners of special grades, creating a kind of class and that yielded to the existence of a rich layer and a poor layer. This is what angered the Iraqi street and its calls for the government to enact a law on the equality of salaries and wages between public sector employees, and private sector. We are with the regulation and reduction of the salary scale for these grades and to bridge this gap.

4-Administrative and financial corruption: This scourge which has been eating away at the body of the Iraqi state and causes the depletion of citizens' income, citizens who barely survive because of the spread of spoilers and parasites and the owners of weak souls in government departments; especially those who belong to the officials. All of this was an important reason that has motivated citizens to demonstrate and protest against this disgraceful phenomenon, and for demanding the disclosure of corrupt thieves and bring them to the judiciary to hold them

accountable. We call on the government to stop this deterioration and to detect these thieves corrupt and bring them to justice.

5-The poor quality of and lack of ration card items: Because of the reluctance of the government in the provision of materials and the ration card items that are considered the backbone of the citizen's life, especially the poor and destitute, widows, orphans and other low-income people, has become another reason for the citizens to take to the street. We call for improving the quality of ration card items and the full speed of delivery to citizens.

ISCI has warned in more than one occasion in its statements, of the political consequences of the slowdown and indifference in providing the requirements of a decent life for the Iraqi people and service that touch the lives of citizens every day, particularly the lack of electricity in some areas, along with indifference to human citizens legitimate and realistic right in more than one joint of the joints of life. That these successive warnings by the political leadership of the Supreme Council came after appeals and tips provided by ISCI to the government of national partnership that the patience of the citizen on his daily suffering and deprivation, the citizen has limits and his rights can not in any way be ignored.

We have advised the Iraqi government that the protests and demonstrations that began in some regions will spread all over the provinces, especially as they may be significantly influenced by what happened and is happening in our Arab and Islamic countries, which overthrow the Tunisian regime, Egyptian, and probably other regimes will fall down in the region because of the negligence of these regimes the service of their peoples, and this was confirmed by ISCI that the government of national partnership a government of national service and not a governing authority.

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experience and the new Iraq that people are tortured in prisons and are subjected to what they are exposed as contained in the reports that document these atrocities. How come some officials are involved of covering up crimes of this kind in government institutions?

We all stood against the behaviors of the former regime which went about insulting people and torturing them in prisons, and so on. Today in light of the new Iraq that the behavior of this kind occurs in the Iraqi prisons, it is something worthy to be addressed and reversed promptly. Dear brothers and sisters, I as a simple citizen call on the concerned authorities to open a just, fair, and impartial investigation on such reports and access to a clear result and deal very firmly with all those involved in abuse of Iraqis away from any political comments. We all for greater coherence and cohesion and the unity among Iraqis of all colors and shades, in a government of national partnership all bear responsibility.

Sayed Alhakim Receives U.S. Ambassador



Sayed Alhakim received on Saturday, February 19, 2011, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Mr. James Jeffrey. During the meeting, they discussed the reality of the Arab summit to be held in Baghdad, and developments in the political, regional, and global arena. Sayed Alhakim stressed that the convening of the next Arab Summit in Baghdad has positive ramifications on the consolidation of the relationship between

Iraq and the Arab world. This meeting was attended by political adviser to Sayed Alhakim, Muhsin Alhakim, and the top U.S. commander in Iraq, Gen. Austin.

Sayed Alhakim Heads ISCI's Consultative Council



Sayed Alhakim headed on Monday, February 21, 2011, ISCI's consultative council. The discussions centered on a number of important points, including studying the position of ISCI toward the changes witnessed by the Arab street, and discussing the wave of protests in the Iraqi street, as well as discussing the mechanisms of strengthening the role of the ISCI within the National Alliance. It was also discussed during the meeting the relationships between various blocs and Iraqi political actors and ways of enhancing the efforts of ISCI on cementing these relations, in order to meet with the aspirations of citizens. On the other hand, the member of the consultative council discussed the latest developments in the region and their impact on the situation in Iraq, along with reflections on the Iraqi-Arab relations, as Sayed Alhakim stressed that the developments in the Arab region were exciting developments in particular the role played by the young people in Tunisia and then in Egypt and other the Arab countries.

Sayed Alhakim Hosts Political-Cultural Forum

Sayed Alhakim hosted on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, the political-cultural forum. Movement to restore freedom in the Arab street and solidarity with it. The movement of the Arab street continues to grow in many Arab countries and these movements aim at expressing discontent and dynamism, and restoring freedoms, social justice, and constitutional amendments and the peaceful transfer of power. These



movements are popular revolutions to restore human dignity demanded by the Arab street and to achieve social justice in the countries of Libya, Bahrain, Algeria, Yemen. What we have witnessed in Tunisia and Egypt are people who have made sacrifices and demands for their legitimate rights. What happened in Bahrain was a matter of surprise and evident in the censure and condemnation of the targeting of unarmed and innocent demonstrators by the armed forces who shot them and besieged them as they demonstrated peacefully to express their political demands. We hope to see understanding and acceptance of the peoples demands and a response to the demands of these people by the competent authorities and put an end to such things. The authorities must open their ears to listen to the demands of the people and solve their problems and meet their legitimate aspirations. In Libya, we find the misconduct in targeting innocents by aircraft and deadly weapons, as we and those on the Arab Street were listening to the speech of Gaddafi, we remembered the speeches of Saddam Hussein the days of popular uprising in 1991. We remember the indifference and lack of listening to the demands of peoples, and their ambitions and ordeals and their problems, but labeled call people with bad names and this is what we have heard from a leader who calls his people as rats and other things that we heard from the descriptions. We express our solidarity and sympathy with legitimate rights of the Arab street in many countries, and the will of peoples to achieve freedom, justice, and prosperity and we wish them stability and prosperity, dignity and freedom and the achievement of the legitimate demands.

The Demonstration Is Constitutional Right Of Citizens

In Iraq, there are marches and demonstrations aimed at reflecting the

because it's one of the founding parties, and it must deal with flexibility because our goal is a true partnership to create a successful government that respects the interests of the Iraqi people and our existence in that alliance is natural and we practice the role of a positive ingredient. When there are errors we will identify them and encourage our partners to correct them. In order to ensure the support of the national political project we emphasize that we will not be a party against another party because ISCI does not believe in the policy of "axes", and given that the National Alliance is composed of two coalitions (INA and SOL), it shows that these are two essential pillars in supporting the political project, and its success to serve the higher interests of the country.

VP Mahdi Receives Egyptian Ambassador



VP Mahdi received on Monday, February 21, 2011, the Egyptian Ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Shaheen Sharif. During the meeting, VP Mahdi stressed that what happened in Egypt is a historic event with the highest civilian and cultural levels, and that the Egyptian people taught the world a critical lesson. He wished that the transitional period in Egypt gets passed with transparency, and stressed the Iraqi people stand by the people of Egypt, and added that "what happened in Iraq, Tunisia, Egypt, and what is happening in the rest of the Arab countries is a new beginning in the Middle East."

He also stressed on the need for the leaders to listen to their people and promote the language of dialogue, in addition to providing the best services to the people. The Egyptian ambassador, briefed VP Mahdi on the latest developments in Egypt and stressed on the need to proceed with constitutional amendments, also expressed his country's support for the Arab summit, because the holding of the Arab Summit

in Baghdad and in this historical juncture is very important considering that the first spark for the democratic transition launched from Iraq, and Egypt's support for the Arab summit is part of its commitment towards Iraq and towards the Arab nation.

Sheikh Hamoudi Issues Statement



Sheikh Hamoudi thanked the Iraqi people on its heroic and memorable roles in support of the democratic process, and commended the tireless demands of the citizens that have forced officials to respond to them, and install their rights through the amendment of the new budget and add materials that serve the people directly and cancel many of the financial allocations that do not serve the people, such as reducing the salaries of officials and cancel the social benefits and the allocation of resources for students and the needy, and the promotion of the provinces' budget and put forward the dismissal of the unsuccessful minister in the investment budget and disbursement of 75% of it. He said that the new approved budget is the first shift towards the demands of the people and redress them, and commended the efforts of the masses which had a primary role in the amendment and the approval of the budget in this format. He stressed on the need to demonstrate in a civilized way to ensure the rights of protesters and without prejudice to public order and security and causing damage to the property of the State, which is a property of Iraqis first and foremost. Sheikh Hamoudi noted that the services cannot be achieved if state is not managed on efficient and fair basis and it's a national task confirmed by the Constitution and confirmed by the religious authority.

MP Alzubaidi Issues Statement



We followed with concern the demonstrations that took to the street on Friday, February 25, 2011, in all parts of Iraq, where Iraqi people demanded the provision of services and the fight against corruption and the reform of the political process. While we pay homage to the national spirit of the demonstrators who have expressed their legitimate demands, we condemn the shooting witnessed by Iraqi citizens and the use of intimidation tactics against them, which has resulted in the killing and injuring of dozens of them. As we have followed with concern, the harassment of many of the national media figures who have struggled with us in the trenches of the opposition against the dictatorship of Saddam and have now been attacked and arrested. We have also followed with concern the close of Aldiar satellite channel, and the Centre for press freedoms and their exposure to attack and destroy their property and the arrest of a number of media colleagues working for the Albaghdadi media channel.

We demand the following:

1-A response to the legitimate demands of the demonstrators in the removal of the mayor of Baghdad and the governors on the basis of mismanagement and failure to provide services to citizens.

2-The investigation on the inhuman practices of some of the security forces, which was manifested in shooting the unarmed demonstrators, which led to the martyrdom and wounding of many of them.

3-The investigation on the attack on the fourth estate and intellectuals, which reflects a bad image for the future of the

